

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-06 NSC-10 NSCE-00 AF-04 IO-03

PM-03 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01

L-02 EB-03 DRC-01 /069 W

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R 221210Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7059

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4301

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR XF RO

SUBJ: ROMANIAN MIDDLE EAST ENVOYS MALITA AND MANESCU

DURING CALL ON DEP FOREIGN MIN GLIGA ON OTHER BUSINESS,
I ASKED HIM IF THERE WAS ANYTHING HE COULD SAY ABOUT CURRENT
TRAVELS OF ROMANIAN PRESIDENTIAL ENVOYS, CORNELIU MANESCU AND
MIRCEA MALITA, TO ARAB CAPITALS. GLIGA DENIED THAT THEY WERE
CARRYING ANY NEW ISRAELI PROPOSALS EMERGING FROM ABBA EBAN
TRIP TO BUCHAREST. HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN TOO MUCH SPECULATION
ABOUT EBAN TRIP BUT ROMANIA DID WISH TO PRESENT ITS GENERAL
APPROACH AS OUTLINED IN ITS DECLARATION
OF LATE OCTOBER ON MIDDLE EAST TO ALL PARTIES AND TO ESTABLISH
LINE OF COMMUNICATION THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL IN NARROWING
DIFFERENCES. ROMANIA BELIEVED FORMER INTRANSIGENCE OF PARTIES
HAD LESSENED CONSIDERABLY AND THAT BOTH SIDES WERE AT LEAST
ASSERTING SIMILAR PRINCIPLES TODAY. FORMER ISRAELI "RIGIDITY"
HAD NOTABLY SOFTENED, IN PARTICULAR, IN GOR VIEW. ROMANIA
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ALSO BELIEVED THAT MANY STATES OF VARYING SIZE SHOULD TRY DO

DO WHAT THEY COULD TO HELP FIND A SOLUTION TO PROBLEM THAT WAS INCREASINGLY ASSUMING INTERNATIONAL AS WELL AS REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS. GLIGA SAID ROMANIAN ENVOYS WERE NOT REPEAT NOT CARRYING ANY SPECIAL ROMANIAN "PLAN" OF SETTLEMENT NOR PROPOSING ANY SPECIAL SITE FOR NEGOTIATIONS (THERE HAS BEEN DIPLOMATIC CORPS SPECULATION HERE THAT BUCHAREST WAS BEING OFFERED AS CONFERENCE SITE). GLIGA ADDED THAT ARAB LEADERS VISITED HAVE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ROMANIAN EXPOSITION OF ITS POSITION AND ITS WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE TO POSSIBLE SOLUTION AS CHANNEL FOR NARROWING DIFFERENCES. HE SAID BILATERAL MATTERS ALSO WERE BEING DISCUSSED ON TRIP AND NOTED IN ANOTHER CONTEXT THAT ROMANIA NOT ONLY HAD GENERAL INTEREST IN SOLUTION BUT INCREASINGLY A DIRECT MATERIAL INTEREST BECAUSE OF PETROLEUM NEEDS.

COMMENT: GLIGA'S STATEMENTS WERE CAUTIOUS AND LIMITED BUT THEY DO SERVE TO NARROW SOMEWHAT RANGE OF SPECULATION ON THESE VISITS. IT APPEARS THAT WHILE ROMANIA WISHES TO ACT AS GO-BETWEEN, IT IS BEING CAREFUL NOT TO INSERT ANY FORMULATIONS OR PROPOSALS OF ITS OWN ON ANY SCALE.

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